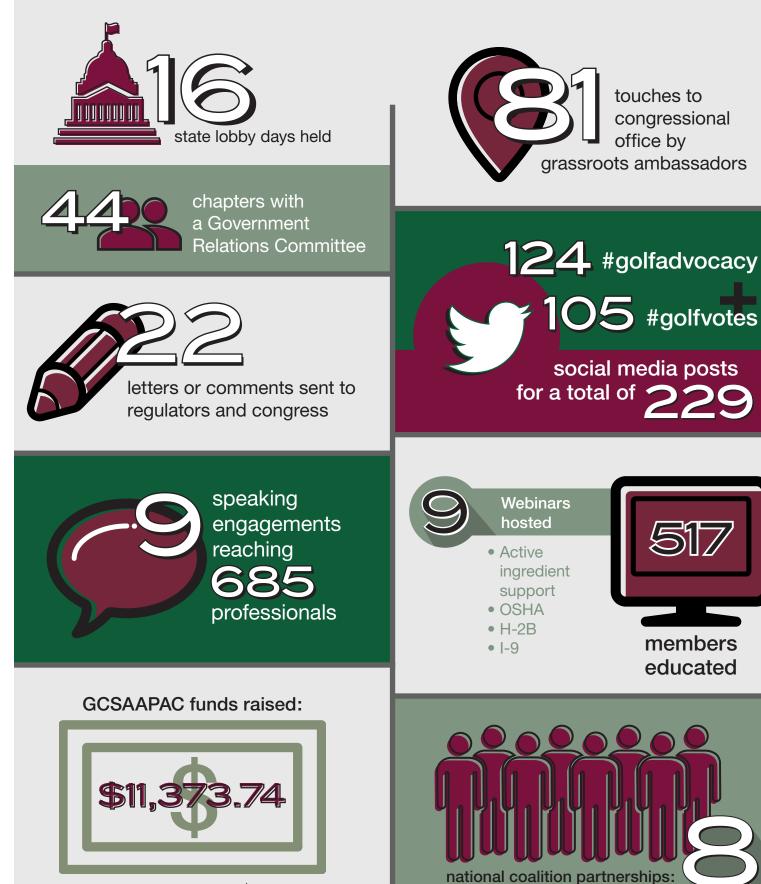


GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS 2018 SNAPSHOT



average donation: \$111.51



GCSAA secured several policy accomplishments in 2018 to advance golf course management.

- Clean Water, Clear Rules. GCSAA continued to lead golf's opposition to the WOTUS rule. Our advocacy helped push the Trump Administration to propose a replacement rule that more clearly defines surface waters under federal government jurisdiction.
- Briefing the White House and congressional leaders on golf's role as an environmental steward of water. GCSAA talked to Congress and the White House Office of Management and Budget to make sure they know superintendents are committed environmental stewards who already protect water quality by applying physical, agronomic and environmental Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- More funding for turfgrass research. GCSAA worked with the turfgrass industry to secure 2018 Farm Bill language funding the "National Turfgrass Research Initiative". This helps fund turf and sod research projects which identify new turfgrass varieties to reduce water use and help mitigate soil erosion.
- Defeating anti-pesticide legislation at the local level. Working with our friends at the Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE), GCSAA's Grassroots Ambassadors helped defeat anti-pesticide legislation in Maryland at the county and state level.

- Guaranteeing golf has access to pesticides needed for turfgrass management. GCSAA lobbied Congress both directly and at the grassroots level to guarantee access to all inputs vital to golf course management. The 2018 Farm Bill included regulatory reform measures streamlining pesticide registration and review under the Endangered Species Act; and authorized a study allowing for greater access to methyl bromide stock in response to an emergency event.
- Protecting and expanding the H-2B Visa Program. GCSAA met with decision-makers in Congress and at the Department of Homeland Security to argue for greater visas and more certainty with the program. Our efforts led to a bipartisan compromise in Congress that potentially doubled the number of visas available and opened the possibility to more.
- Training our Grassroots Army to amplify golf's voice. Grassroots Ambassadors submitted numerous public comments to EPA supporting the re-registration of products after GCSAA webinars trained them on how to submit effective and substantive comments to the federal docket.
- Ensuring continued availability of products through sound science. The EPA issued several interim registration review decisions on active ingredients used on golf courses. No label changes were proposed after GCSAA and its members provided use data directly to the agency.